IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 1-20 without prejudice and substitute the following Claims 21-43:

Claims 1-20. Canceled

21.(new) A hinge (1), comprising

a first movable hinge section (3),

a second hinge section (2) including a fixed stop section,

at least one joint axis (7) interconnecting said first and second hinge section (3, 2),

a damping device (16) mounted upon one of said first and second hinge sections (3, 2) a comprising a damping member (19) mounted for rotational or translational movement,

gear means mounted at least partially upon the other of said first and second hinge sections (3, 2) for acting upon said damping member (19) at least in a region of a closed position of said hinge (1), and

said gear means comprising at least three movable gear members (20, 22, 27) mounted to control rotation of said damping member (19) depending upon tilt of said movable hinge section (3) relative to said at least one joint axis (7).

22.(new) The hinge (1) of Claim 21, wherein one (20) of said at least three gear members (20, 22, 27) is a pinion (20) keyed onto said damping member (19).

23. (new) The hinge of Claim 21, additionally comprising

an axis (6) positioned upon one of said hinge sections (2, 3) for supporting a gear member (22) intermediately-mounted between said two other gear members (20, 27) of said at least three gear members (20, 22, 27), and

said intermediately-mounted gear member (22) comprising two separate engaging members (21, 23; 33, 23) arranged

(i) concentrically about said axis (6) supporting said intermediately-mounted gear member (22),

(ii) at a periphery of said intermediately-mounted gear member (22), and

(iii) at unequal distance from said axis (6) supporting said intermediately-mounted gear (22),

with said engaging member (23) mounted further from said axis (6) arranged to engage one (20) of said gears (20, 22, 27) contacting said damping member (19), and

said engaging member (33; 21) mounted closer to said axis (6) arranged to engage the other (27) of said gears (20, 22, 27) mounted upon the other of said hinge sections (3, 2).

24.(new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein said engaging members (21, 23) are constituted by toothed segments (21, 23) concentrically-curved with respect to said axis (6) and having different radii of curvature,

with said engaging member (23) mounted further from said axis (6) having the larger radius of curvature and said engaging member (21) mounted closer to said axis (6) having the smaller radius of curvature, and

said other (27) of said gears (20, 22, 27) being rotatably mounted and comprising a toothed segment (27) arranged to engage said toothed segment (21) having the smaller radius of curvature.

25.(new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein

said engaging member (23) mounted further from said axis (6) being constituted by a toothed segment (23) concentrically-curved with respect to said axis (6),

said engaging member (33) mounted closer to said axis (6) being constituted by either a projection or fork-shaped recess (33), and

said other (27) of said gears (20, 22, 27) comprising a recess or projection (37) arranged to engage said projection or fork-shaped recess (33) of said engaging member (33).

26.(new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein

said hinge (1) is a double-joint hinge,

said axis (6) is mounted upon said hinge section (2) which is fixed, and

said other (27) of said gear members (20, 22, 27) comprises an engaging member (27) arranged to engage said engaging member (21) mounted closer to said axis (6) and a connecting rod (5) mounted upon said movable hinge section (3).

27.(new) The hinge of Claim 26, additionally comprising

a second connecting rod (4) mounted upon said movable hinge section (3) and axis (6) supporting said intermediately-positioned gear member (22).

28.(new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein

said intermediately-positioned gear member (22) is symmetrically-positioned with respect to a diameter plane (24) extending through centers of both said engaging members (21, 23).

29.(new) The hinge of Claim 27, additionally comprising

means for overcoming damping force and comprising

said first connecting rod (5) comprising legs (13),

one (2) of said hinge sections (2, 3) comprising a cross-piece (14),

a hairpin-shaped spring (12) being retained between said legs (13) and supported on said joint axis (7) and cross-piece (14), and

said second connecting rod (4) comprising a rolled-up bearing eye (10) mounted about said axis (6) supporting said intermediately-positioned gear (22) and a tongue (11) extending from said bearing eye (10) and arranged to act as a cam sliding along a leg of said spring (12).

30.(new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein

said damping member (16) is mounted upon said fixed hinge section (2), and

said other (27; 37; 45) of said gears is rotatably mounted upon said joint axis (7; 60) in turn mounted upon said fixed hinge section (2).

31.(new) The hinge of Claim 26, wherein said connecting rod (5) is arranged to be supported by or interconnect said two hinge sections (2, 3) and rigidly connected to said other (27, 37) of said gears.

32.(new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein

said other (45) of said gear members being rotatably mounted upon an axis (60) situated upon said hinge section (2) on which said damping device (16) is affixed and arranged to engage said intermediately-positioned gear (22) and other hinge section (3).

33.(new) The hinge of Claim 32, wherein said other (45) of said gear members comprises a projection arranged to project into a swivel path of said other hinge section (3) in open position of said hinge (1) and be actuated by said other hinge section (3) upon closing of said hinge (1).

34.(new) The hinge of Claim 33, additionally comprising

a spring (58) arranged to pre-stress said damping device (16) in the open position of said hinge (1) and act upon at least one of said intermediately-positioned and other gear members (22, 45).

35.(new) The hinge of Claim 21, wherein one (2) of said hinge sections (2,3) to which at least one of said damping device (16) and gear members (22, 45) is affixed, is constructed as a hinge cup having a flange.

36.(new) The hinge of Claim 21, wherein at least one of said damping device (16) and three gear members (20, 22, 27) comprise a pivoting axis extending substantially parallel to said joint axis (7).

37.(new) The hinge of Claim 21, wherein at least one of said damping device (16) and three gear members (20, 22, 45) comprise a pivoting axis (60, 61, 62) extending substantially perpendicular to said joint axis (7).

38. (new) The hinge of Claim 21, wherein

said damping device (16) comprises a plurality of damping members, and

said intermediately-positioned gear member (22) comprises an engaging piece (23) arranged to actuate all said damping members, in common.

39.(new) The hinge of Claim 24 wherein ratio of said smaller: larger radii is from 1:1.5 to 1:3.

40.(new) The hinge of Claim 24 wherein the radius of said member (23) mounted further from said axis (6) is larger than radius of said gear (20) contacting said damping member (19).

41.(new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein said member (23) engaging said gear (20) in turn contacting said damping member (19), is arranged to impart rotary movement over a range of 60° to 70°.

42. (new) The hinge of Claim 23, wherein said intermediately-mounted gear (22) and other gear (27, 37, 45) are arranged to engage at an angular position 20°-30° before reaching a completely-closed position of said hinge (1) to provide damping action.

43. (new) The hinge of Claim 21 structured and arranged to provide damping action by relative movement of hinge sections (2, 3) only.